

**JON EVANS**, in his words, says he might as well put in his two-piece worth on the subject.

“Personally I think there are quite a few forgeries about, but that doesn’t necessarily mean somebody making a die for the purpose. (I would not rule out such a thing but if it did happen I would suggest it would be the minority of the dies.)

However, I am convinced that there are a quantity of stamps where people have been able to use original machines: I’ve personally seen a 10s seahorse with perfin (mint). In fact, look at the ratio of mint-to-used examples and compare that with commercial overprints. Purely based on items I have seen, admittedly this cannot be called comprehensive, the number of mint BT perfins is suspiciously high. I certainly have more mint than used.

Then there is the argument that perfins were not seen as collectable at the time so it was not worthwhile someone forging them. Well, neither were commercial overprints collectable, but no one denies Official Overprints were collectable. So, why not the same situation with perfins? I’ve been told that Official Perfins were listed in some catalogues of the period.

So, what if I’m wrong and they really weren’t collectable after all? Well then who on earth collected all those mint examples which we find on the market today?”